

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Kazuo KURODA et al

Conf. 4095

Application No. 10/577,226

Group 2627

Filed June 26, 2006

Examiner Van T. Pham

INFORMATION RECORDING APPARATUS AND COMPUTER PROGRAM

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In compliance with Rules 1.97 and 1.98, and in fulfillment of the duty of disclosure under Rule 1.56, the cited documents are made of record on the enclosed PTO Form-1449.

As the USPTO has waived the requirement under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. patent and patent publication for applications filed after June 30, 2003, copies of the cited U.S. references are not enclosed, as the present application is filed after June 30, 2003. Copies of the cited foreign patent documents and/or non-patent literature are enclosed.

A concise explanation of the relevance of these items is that these references were cited by the European Patent Office in the European Search Report in the corresponding European Application No. EP 05 77 50533. A copy of the European Search Report in which they were cited is attached hereto.

Under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97(e), the undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert J. Patch', written over a horizontal line.

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